

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 03373 191104Z
ACTION SS-25

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-----098259 191106Z /10
O 191030Z AUG 77 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5962
AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 3373

EXDIS

LONDON FOR MOOSE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, US
SUBJECT: OWEN MESSAGE TO NYERERE

REF: A) STATE 197392, B) DAR ES SALAAM 3362

1. FOLLOWING ARE EXACT TALKING POINTS FROM UK FOREIGN
SECRETARY OWEN AS USED WITH PRESIDENT NYERERE EVENING AUGUST 18.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

MR. VANCE AND I NOTE THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE FEELS THAT MORE
TIME IS NECESSARY TO PREPARE FOR A MEETING WITH THE FRONT LINE
PRESIDENTS. WE SHOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE SUCH A MEETING BEFORE
THE LAGOS CONFERENCE, BUT WE UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS NOW PROBABLY
NOT POSSIBLE. FOR MY PART, I AM STILL READY TO COME WITH
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AMBASSADOR YOUNG AT ANY TIME. MR. VANCE AND I AGREE THAT
IT IS AT A JOINT MEETING OF THAT KIND THAT WE CAN BEST PRESENT
OUR PROPOSALS AS A WHOLE, CLARIFY OUR VIEWS ON PRECISE METHOD OF
HANDLING THE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS OF THE FORCES DURING THE TRANSITION
PERIOD IN A MANNER THAT BOTH SATISFIES THE POLITICAL REALITIES AND
ALSO MEETS THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF EXECUTION, AND AVOIDS THE
MISUNDERSTANDINGS WHICH APPEAR TO HAVE ARISEN. FOR THESE

REASONS WE HOPE THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE WILL BE READY TO ORGANISE A MEETING AS SOON AFTER LAGOS AS POSSIBLE AND TO ANNOUNCE IT, PREFERABLY IN ADVANCE OF THAT CONFERENCE. WE RECOGNISE THAT THE DELAY IN THE MEETING MAY INVOLVE DELAY ALSO IN THE PUBLICATION OF OUR PROPOSALS. AS HE NOTED WE ARE GIVING GREAT URGENCY TO THE NEED TO PRESS ON WITH OUR ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT: OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE UNITED IN THAT, AS IN OUR APPROACH TO THE DETAILED PROBLEMS.

2. ON THE QUESTION OF LAW AND ORDER I SHOULD LIKE TO REAFFIRM THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO HAVING A UN FORCE. WE AGREE THAT IT IS DESIRABLE THAT THIS SHOULD BE AS SUBSTANTIAL AS NECESSARY WITH A MANDATE STRONG AND CLEAR ENOUGH TO ENABLE IT TO BE THE PRIMARY SUPPORT FOR THE POLICE IN MAINTAINING ORDER DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD. OUR ABILITY TO OBTAIN SUCH A FORCE AND MANDATE WILL DEPEND UPON A STRONG COLLECTIVE EFFORT WITH THE UN ON THE PART OF THE US, THE UK AND THE FRONT LINE STATES.

3. THE ARMY OF INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE MUST BE AN ARMY OF ZIMBABWE'S OWN CHOOSING. THERE IS NO INTENTION ON OUR PART TO MAINTAIN IN BEING THE RHODESIAN FORCES AS AT PRESENT CONSTITUTED EVEN FROM TRANSFER DAY, WHICH IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, FOR WE BELIEVE THAT SEVERAL ELEMENTS OF THE PRESENT FORCE SHOULD BE ABOLISHED AT THE OUTSET. OVER TIME, AND IN ANY EVENT BY INDEPENDENCE DAY, THE REMAINING INDIVIDUALS AND ELEMENTS WILL BE EITHER DEMOBILISED OR INCORPORATED INTO THE

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NEW ZIMBABWE ARMY WHICH WILL BE BASED UPON THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES.

4. WITH THESE GENERAL PRINCIPLES IN MIND OUR FEELING IS THAT THE PRECISE NATURE OF THE UN FORCE AND ITS MANDATE, AND THE PRECISE MILITARY DETAILS OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CEASE-FIRE AND DEMOBILISATION OF EXISTING FORCES, AS WELL AS THE MANNER IN WHICH THE NEW ZIMBABWE ARMY IS TO BE CONSTITUTED SHOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AMONG OURSELVES AND THE PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE UNITED NATIONS.

5. IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE DELAY BEFORE A FULL PRESENTATION CAN BE MADE TO THE FIVE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS, WE THINK THAT IT WOULD BE RIGHT TO GIVE THE OTHER FOUR A GENERAL INDICATION OF THE LINES ON WHICH WE ARE THINKING, SIMILAR TO THE BRIEFING THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE HAS HIMSELF RECEIVED. OUR AMBASSADORS AND HIGH COMMISSIONERS WILL ACCORDINGLY BE DOING THIS IN THE VARIOUS CAPITALS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. WE ARE ALSO CONSIDERING HOW BEST TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE PARTIES DURING THE INTERVAL AND THERE MAY BE A NEED FOR FURTHER CONSULTATION WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT. END TEXT.

SPAIN

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